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Augusta County, VA

Cities: Staunton City and Waynesboro City

Urban Population (2000):

Augusta County: 22.0% Staunton City: 99.1% Waynesboro City: 97.7%

Parkway Activities in the County: Shenandoah NP and the northern entrance of the

Blue Ridge Parkway NP

Description of the County:

33% of the county is under federal management.

45.4% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 3.4% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

5 – Adjacent to a small metro area and contains all or part of its own city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits: -1.2%

Population:

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County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)		
Augusta	65,615	23.6%	20.0%	11.2%	22.1%	121	43		

Industry and Employment:

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	2%	34%	47%	17%
% Employment (1999)	6%	25%	54%	15%
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	23%	-7%	23%	6%
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	36%	16%	43%	33%
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	5%	-2%	21%	17%

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Augusta	1.1%	0.2%	0.5%	1.7%

Questions for Augusta County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

Although the population increased by 20% between 1990 and 2000, the number of building permits issued for the same period decreased by 1.2%.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The "sales and service" industries are expected to provide the greatest percentage of employment and earnings in the next 20 years.

What types of activities are included in the S&S sector (e.g., warehouse and shipping operations, cottage crafts and industry)?

Typically, how big are these businesses?

Recreation

Given that Augusta County is a gateway for Shenandoah NP it is surprising that so little of the county's revenue (0.2%) is generated through recreation and related services (rooms, camp sites etc.)

Does the county anticipate or have plans to increase revenues from recreation and recreation related services?

Does the county have a sense as to how much of the seasonal and recreational housing can be attributed to the second home market and or the Shenandoah National Park?

Amherst, County VA

Cities: N/A

Urban Population (2000):

Amherst County: 36.9%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Appalachian Trail, views to The Priest's Wilderness Area, James River Visitor Center, Otter Creek Campground

Description of the County:

15.9% of the county is under federal management.

30.5% of the county was designated as farmland in 1997, a decrease of 1.2% between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of Urbanization:

2 - Counties in small metropolitan areas of less than 1 million residents.

Change in Building Permits: -2.1%

Population

Coun	ty Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Amhe	rst 31,895	9.6%	11.6%	12.5%	9.5%	75.6	40.4

Industry and Employment

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	1	35	36	28
% Employment (1999)	5	23	48	23
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	17	28	7	-17
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	45	47	52	24
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	1	22	28	9

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Amherst	1.2%	0.4%	0.7%	1.4%

Questions for Amherst County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population:

Although the projected growth is moderate it is increasing over time and the number of acres classified as farmland is decreasing.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

This is one of the very few counties that have actually had a decrease in the number of building permits issued between 1990 and 2000?

Given that the population is increasing, how is the county accommodating the population growth if the building permits are actually decreasing?

Industry and Employment:

The economy of the county seems balanced between the four sectors. It is interesting that although employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector is projected to increase 1% between 2000 and 2020 earnings are projected to increase by 45% for the same period.

What types of activities are included in the A&N sector (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations)?

With the exception of the government sector, earnings in all sectors are projected to increase by more than 40 % between 2000 and 2020.

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in these sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation:

Although there are a number of recreational activities in the county the total recreational housing in the county is one of the lowest for the counties in Virginia along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Bedford County, VA

Cities: Bedford City

Urban Population (2000):

Bedford County: 15.3% Bedford City: 100%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Peaks of Otter Recreation Area,, Johnson Farm, trails to Sharp Top, Flat Top Mountains, Visitor Center, James River Visitor Center, Trails and historic river locks

Description of the County:

53% of the county is under federal management.

40.3% was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 4.5 % between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

2 – Counties in small metropolitan areas of less than 1 million residents.

Change in building permits: 2.4%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Bedford	60,371	70.8%	32.2%	45.4%	72.8%	128.1	44.9

Industry and Employment:

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	1	40	45	14
% Employment (1999)	8	27	54	11
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	12	14	53	18
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	44	44	112	62
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	2	23	70	39

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Bedford	1.2%	0.0%	0.9%	4.7 %

Questions for Bedford County:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population:

Although the population in the county has increased by 20%, the number of building permits issued between 1990 and 2000 decreased by 1.2%. The projected population density per square mile is the second highest for any of the counties in Virginia along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment:

Although the percentage of farmland decreased between 1982 and 1997, the earnings from the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector is projected to increase by 44% between 2000 and 2020 with only a 2% increase in employment.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

The biggest contributor to the county's economy is the sales and service (S&S) sector. This sector provides the greatest employment and earnings in the county and between 2000 and 2020 the projected earnings more than double with only a 20% increase in employment.

Of the S&S activities in your county (e.g., warehouse and shipping operations, cottage crafts and industry) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Typically, how big are these businesses?

Recreation:

The percentage of the total housing in the county that is seasonal or recreational is the fifth highest among the counties in Virginia along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Botetourt County, VA

Cities: N/A

Urban Population (2000):

Botetourt County: 32.9%

Parkway Activities in the County: Apple Orchard Mountain, Appalachian Trail

Description of the County:

23.4% of the county is under federal management.

26.0% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a decrease of 7.2 % between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

2 – Counties in small metropolitan areas of less than 1 million people.

Change in building permits: 5.1%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Botetourt	30,496	37.4%	22.0%	31.0%	31.1%	74.0	47.8

Industry and Employment:

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	5	36	44	15
% Employment (1999)	10	27	51	12
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	11	72	41	27
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	40	74	74	47
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	6	47	43	26

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Botetourt	1.2%	0.0%	0.9%	2.4%

Questions for Botetourt County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population:

The population of the county has grown by 57.4% since 1970 and is projected to grow another 31% by 2020. Even with this large increase in population the change in density seems low at 31.1%.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment:

The designated farmland in the county has decreased by 7.2%, but the projected earnings for the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector are projected to increase by 40% in between 2000 and 2020. The projected earnings and employment in the sales and service (S&S) sector and the construction and manufacturing (C&M) are significant.

Of the "A&N" activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Of the "S&S" activities in your county (e.g., warehouse and shipping operations, cottage crafts and industry) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate? Typically, how big are these businesses?

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Botetourt County, VA: (cont.)

Recreation:

Of the total housing stock in the county, 2.4% is classified as seasonal or recreational.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Carroll County, VA

Cities: Galax City

Urban Population:

Carroll County: 1.4% Galax City: 90.7%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: views to Buffalo Mountain, Volunteer and Orchard Gaps, Fancy Gap, 1 of 5 historic stone churches, Groundhog Mountain Picnic Area and interpretive display, Puckett's Cabin

Description of the County:

3.5% of the county is under federal management. 38.5% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 6.3 % increase between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

8 – Not adjacent to a metro area and contains all or part of its own town of 2,500 to 9,999 residents.

Change in building permits: 1.5 %

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Carroll	29,245	15.2%	10.0%	11.3%	7.2%	83.0	43.3

Industry and Employment:

======================================				
	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	2	41	42	15
% Employment (1999)	7	38	43	12
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	8	-6	27	15
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	42	20	52	49
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	1	-1	24	31

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Carroll	1.3%	1.1%	1.1%	8.8%

Questions for Carroll County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population:

The population of the county is expected to increase by 11.3% by 2020 with a projected density of 83 people per square mile. Because the amount of designated farmland has increased in the county it appears that the majority of the increase in the population will occur in and around Galax City.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

Earnings in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector are projected to increase by 42% even though employment is only projected to increase by 1%. Similarly, earnings in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) are projected in increase by 20% with a decrease of 1% in employment.

What types of activities are included in the A&N sector (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations)?

What types of activities are included in the C&M sector (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing)?

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

8.8% of the total housing in the county is recreational; this is among the highest for the counties in Virginia along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Do these Shenane	Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?								

Floyd County, VA

Cities: N/A

Urban Population (2000):

Floyd County: 0.0%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Mabry Mill, Rocky Knob Campground, Rocky Knob Picnic Area, The Saddle Overlook, Belcher Curve, Round Meadow parking area and trail, Harris Farm, Kelly School NHS, Rakes Mill Pond, Tuggles Gap, Floyd Country Store (NHS)

Description of the County:

1.6% of the county is under federal management 48.4% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 3.7% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

6 – Adjacent to a small metro area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits: 8.3%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Floyd	13,874	22.8%	15.6%	17.6%	20.0%	42.8	45.8

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	7	27	46	20
% Employment (1999)	25	19	45	12
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	14	-18	55	24
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	38	19	69	43
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	-2	1	42	25

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Floyd	0.8%	0.0%	0.6%	6.2%

Questions for Floyd County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population:

The population growth in the county has averaged 12.8% every decade since 1970 and growth is projected to continue at a faster rate between 2000 and 2020. Even with a projected increase in density of 20%, the population density per square mile will only be 43 people which is among the lowest for the counties in Virginia along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment:

Although the number of building permits issued increased by 8.3% between 1990 and 2000 employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) decreased by 18%.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

The percentage of designated farmland has decreased and the projected employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector is projected to also decrease by 2% between 2000 and 2020 but the earnings in this sector will are projected to increase by 38%.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Floyd County, VA: (cont)

Recreation:

Although the percentage of recreational housing in the county is 6.2%, there are no sales attributed to recreation within the county.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Franklin County, VA

Cities: none reported separately

Urban Population (2000):

Franklin County: 9.0%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Adney Gap (historic cemetery), views to Cahas Mountain (NHL), 2 highly scenic views (Pine Spur & Devil's Backbone)

Description of the County:

1.6% of the county is under federal management 40.7% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 13.5% increase between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits (1990-2000): 1.2%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Franklin	47,286	47.3%	19.6%	31.4%	32.3%	90.1	44.8

Industry and Employment:

	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	2	44	40	14
% Employment (1999)	9	35	47	10
% Change in employment	-3	6	52	21
(1990-1999)				
% Projected change in	34	35	83	57
earning (2000-2020)				
% Projected change in	-6	13	52	37
employment (2000-2020)				

County	Total Establishments	Total Sales	Total Employment	Total Housing
	(2000)	(2000)	(2000)	(2000)
Franklin	2.5%	0.6%	0.8%	11.4%

Questions for Franklin County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population:

There are a number of interesting trends in this county. The population is increasing relatively quickly and the projected density in the county is one of the highest in Virginia along the parkway but the urban population is still only 9%. The percentage of designated farmland in the county has increased but so has the number of building permits issued.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Employment and Industry:

Although the projected employment in the agriculture and natural resource (A&N) sector is expected to decrease by 6%, the projected earnings are expected to increase by 34%. Interestingly, the projected earnings are only just lower than the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector even though the employment in this sector is expected to increase by 13%.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Franklin County, VA: (cont)

Recreation:

The percentage of total recreational establishments (2.5%) is one of the highest along the parkway. The percentage of total recreational housing (11.4%) is the third highest in Virginia along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Grayson County, VA

Cities: Galax City

Urban Population (2000):

Grayson County: 0.6% Galax City: 90.7%

Parkway or Other Recreational Activities in the County: Blue Ridge Music Center, only double stone arch bridge, Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area, Appalachian Trail, Grayson Highlands State Park

Description of the County:

11.9% of the county is under federal management.

48.1% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 2.6% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

8 – Not adjacent to a metro area and contains all or part of its own town of 2,500 to 9,999 residents.

Change in building permits: 5.5%

Population:

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County	Population	Pop Change	Recent Pop	Projected	Change in	Projected Pop	Projected Median
County	1			3		- 1	
	(2000)	(1970-1990)	Change	Pop Change	Pop Density	Density	Age
			(1990-2000)	(2000-2020)	(1980-2000)	(2020)	(2020)
Grayson	17,917	5.4%	10.1%	4.3%	8.1%	42.3	46.8

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	5	38	36	21
% Employment (1999)	24	25	39	13
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	7	-34	33	14
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	41	1	53	34
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	-2	-11	26	17

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Grayson	0.5%	0.0%	0.7%	12.0%

Questions for Grayson County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The percentage population growth in the county between 1970 and 2000 and the projected percentage population growth between 2000 and 2020 are the lowest among the counties in Virginia along the parkway. However, the percentage increase in the number of building permits issued (5.5%) is the third highest

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The percentage of acres classified as farmland is decreasing, as is the projected employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector although there is an increase in the total projected earnings through 2020.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector decreased between 1990 and 1999 and is expected to further decrease through 2020, although the total income is projected to increase by 1%.

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

All sectors of the economy are projected to grow in the county. How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in these sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Questions for Grayson County, VA: (cont)

Recreation

The total percentage of recreational housing in the county is high; especially compared to the total percentage of recreational establishments (0.5%), recreational sales (0.0%) and employment (0.7%).

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Nelson County, VA

Cities: N/A

Urban Population (2000):

Nelson County: 0.0%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: North Entrance,

Humpback Rocks, Appalachian Trail, entrance Shenandoah National Park

Description of the County:

8.1% of the county is under federal management

24.2% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 6.4% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits: -1.9%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Nelson	14,445	9.2%	13.0%	12.0%	18.4%	34.3	44.2

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	6	18	59	17
% Employment (1999)	13	15	61	11
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	3	6	42	10
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	44	30	110	18
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	-2	11	68	2

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Nelson	1.8%	4.6%	10.0%	24.7%

Questions for Nelson County:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

Although there is an increase in the population and an increase in the density the growth pattern still seems dispersed because there are no urban centers. The county is one of only three in Virginia where the number of building permits issued annually has decreased.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The projected earnings in the sales and service (S&S) will increase by 110% and is the strongest sector of the local economy. The projected earning in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector is projected to increase 44% even though the projected employment will decrease by 2% and the designated farmland in the county is decreasing.

What types of activities are included in the A&N sector (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations)?

What types of activities are included in the S&S sector (e.g., warehouse and shipping operations, cottage crafts and industry)? Typically, how big are these businesses?

How does the county anticipate accommodating growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

The percentage of total sales, total employment, and total housing in the county related to recreation is the highest of the Virginia counties along the parkway. Although there is an increase in density the overall growth pattern seems dispersed.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Patrick County, VA

Cities: N/A

Urban Population (2000):

Patrick County: 0.0%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Smart View Recreation Area, Rock Castle Gorge & Rocky Knob Recreation Area trails, Rocky Knob CCC cabins, 4 of 5 historic stone churches, Meadows of Dan, Levering Orchards

Description of the County:

2.5% of the county is under federal management.

24.0% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, an 8.1% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

9 - Not adjacent to a metro area and totally rural, does not contain any part of a town of 2,500 or more residents.

Change in building permits: 8.1%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Patrick	19,407	14.3%	11.1%	6.2%	10.0%	42.7	44.4

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	2	47	38	13
% Employment (1999)	11	38	41	10
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	-9	-4	17	6
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	43	41	31	31
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	-5	14	11	13

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Patrick	1.3%	0.0%	1.4%	7.4%

Questions for Patrick County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

The projected increase in population is one of the lowest for the Virginia counties along the parkway but had one of the highest decreases in farmland and the highest increase in building permits. The projected density is also one of the lowest along the parkway.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The economic base for the county appears balanced across the four sectors with respect to projected earnings. It is interesting that earnings in the agriculture and natural resource (A&N) are projected to increase between 2000 and 2020 even though employment is expected to decrease and the designated farmland has already decreased.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

The total percentage of recreational housing is among the highest in the Virginia counties along the parkway.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/employment/housing?

Roanoke County, VA

Cities: Roanoke and Salem City

Urban Population (2000):

Roanoke County: 78.0% Roanoke City: 100% Salem City: 100%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: EXPLORE Park, Roanoke

River Campground, Roanoke Greenway System, Appalachian Trail

Description of the County:

4.9% of the county is under federal management.

16.6% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 10.3% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

2 - Counties in small metropolitan areas of less than 1 million residents.

Change in building permits: 6.9%

Population:

County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970-1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990-2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000-2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980-2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Roanoke	85,778	17.8%	8.1%	16.2%	17.6%	485.5	39.2

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	1	28	56	16
% Employment (1999)	1	21	66	12
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	37	-13	7	7
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	38	32	87	44
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	13	7	47	27

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Roanoke	1.6%	1.0%	1.7%	0.4%

Questions for Roanoke County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population

This is the most urbanized of the Virginia counties along the parkway. And although the population of Roanoke City appears to be shrinking the rest of the county population is increasing.

What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)? Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment

The earnings and employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) sector are projected to increase by 38% and 13% respectively even though the designated farmland in the county has decreased and the population is projected to increase by 16.2% for the same period. Although employment in the construction and manufacturing (C&M) sector decreased between 1990 and 2000, the number of building permits issues decreased by 13%.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

Of the C&M activities in your county (e.g., high tech manufacturing, residential construction, commercial manufacturing) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

Although the population is increasing the total recreational housing seems low; especially since there are two major cities in the county.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?

Do these plans include a tie into the parkway or other national park (e.g., Shenandoah or the Great Smokies)?					

Rockbridge County, VA

Cities:

Urban Population (2000):

Rockbridge County: 3.7%

Parkway and Other Recreational Activities in the County: Buena Vista Overlook,

Appalachian Trail

Description of the County:

17.7% of the county is under federal management.

36.5% of the county was designated farmland in 1997, a 4.3% decrease between 1982 and 1997.

Degree of urbanization:

6 - Adjacent to a small metro area and area and does not contain any part of a city of 10,000 or more residents.

Change in building permits: 5.7%

Population:

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County	Population (2000)	Pop Change (1970- 1990)	Recent Pop Change (1990- 2000)	Projected Pop Change (2000- 2020)	Change in Pop Density (1980- 2000)	Projected Pop Density (2020)	Projected Median Age (2020)
Rockbridge	20,808	10.3%	13.4%	8.0%	16.2%	60.4	41.3

Industry and Employment:

County	A&N	C&M	S&S	GOV
% Total earning (1999)	1	30	48	21
% Employment (1999)	6	23	55	15
% Change in employment (1990-1999)	11	3	26	10
% Projected change in earning (2000-2020)	32	29	53	42
% Projected change in employment (2000-2020)	-3	8	27	25

County	Total Establishments (2000)	Total Sales (2000)	Total Employment (2000)	Total Housing (2000)
Rockbridge	4.7%	2.1%	2.5%	4.0%

Questions for Rockbridge County, VA:

Is the summary information on the previous page from the Blue Ridge Parkway Socioeconomic Atlas consistent with your experience in the county?

Population:

The county population is projected to increase at a slower rate with an increase density. What do you think is happening here?

What is drawing people into the county (e.g., natural growth in the population, growth in industry or employment, second homes, recreation)?

What kind of growth pattern is typical in the county (e.g., farmland conversion and large lot development, clustered near existing development, within an existing town center)?

Is development occurring near the parkway or in some other part of the county?

Industry and Employment:

Although the percentage of farmland has decreased and the projected employment in the agriculture and natural resources (A&N) will decrease earnings in this sector are projected to increase by 32%.

Of the A&N activities in your county (e.g., logging, niche farming such as organic produce or floral materials, confined animal feeding operations) what kinds of changes are you seeing or do you anticipate?

How does the county anticipate accommodating the projected growth in all sectors with respect to land use? Will the county target growth into particular areas of the county?

Recreation

The recreation related employment, sales, employment, and housing are all strong.

What percentage of the recreational housing is seasonal (e.g., hotels, camps) versus second homes?

Does the county have any plans to further increase recreation related revenues/ employment/ housing?